What is claimed is:

1   1.   A service for removing a node from a multi-node computer, the service comprising:

2   receiving a system management interrupt (SMI) in a node in a multi-node computer;

3   quiescenting only the node receiving the SMI;

4   polling other nodes in the multi-node computer to determine if the SMI affects an

5   operation of any of the other nodes;

6   quiescenting any other SMI affected node; and

7   transferring all of the contents of any affected node's system memory to a backup

8   memory in an unaffected node in the multi-node computer, wherein the unaffected node assumes

9   all operations of the node that received the SMI, thus allowing the node to be removed from the

10   multi-node computer.

1   2.   The service of claim 1, wherein the SMI is in response to a request to hot-swap out the

2   node.

1   3.   The service of claim 1, wherein the SMI is in response to a predicted failure of the node.